



# SAU 33 SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH PROPOSAL

### **Overview and Introduction:**

The NH School Boards Association (NHSBA) is pleased to provide this proposal for the SAU 33 School Board superintendent recruitment project. Please consider the following to be a draft that is open to modification based the Board's needs. NHSBA will contract with The Bryan Group (TBG) in order to facilitate and accomplish this search. Additional information about TBG can be found at <a href="https://www.tbgleaders.com">www.tbgleaders.com</a>.

TBG provides all the search services for NHSBA. Overall leadership of this search will be directed by William Bryan, Ph.D., founder and CEO of The Bryan Group. Dr. Bryan's biography is also included with this proposal. NHSBA began contracting with the Bryan Group in the 2018-19 school year. The Bryan Group has conducted seven successful New Hampshire superintendent searches since.

NHSBA is the leading superintendent search organization in New Hampshire. In any given year, NHSBA conducts between three and eight superintendent searches. NHSBA Executive Director Barrett M. Christina has been involved in dozens of superintendent searches over the last 15 years. Further, NHSBA is the only organization dedicated solely to providing services to school boards. Serving the school board's needs is the primary goal of all NHSBA efforts.

TBG is the only firm that applies proven behavioral science to the search process. This process is based on Dr. Bryan's 40-plus years of empirical applied competency and motivation research. This research focused on identifying skills and competencies of top performers in senior leadership positions in the education, business, military, government, and non-profit sectors. When combined with the Guided Storytelling Interview, the TBG process leads to a much higher level of precision and accuracy when identifying what capabilities candidates possess and <u>removes a significant amount of personal bias from the screening process</u>. The bottom line – more qualified candidates and a much higher level of confidence in your selection decision.

The activities described below constitute a process led by TBG. The role of the Search Committee can be expanded as desired, with more involvement in developing candidate selection criteria and interviews, as requested.

# **Description of the Candidate Selection Process developed by TBG:**

NHSBA and TBG use a competency-based model of leadership, using criteria developed by the Search Committee. This model results in a Candidate Evaluation document that allows Search Committee members to rate each semi-finalist candidate against competencies that are chosen as important by the Search Committee.

This methodology is uniquely research-based and proven to identify the competencies needed for successful leadership at the superintendent level. Candidates will be screened by TBG consultants, with





ultimate authority of choosing finalists residing with the Search Committee. Two or three finalists will then be recommended to the SAU 33 School Board for final selection.

# Description of the Interview Process to be Used in Selection of Candidates:

The interview process utilized by NHSBA and TBG is based on methodology using Guided Storytelling Interviews (GSI) developed by William Bryan, Ph.D. The GSI process uses an interview technique that relies on the candidate's description of past behavior and experiences which identify the competencies needed for a superintendent position. The TBG consultant will conduct short interviews (30-60 minutes in length), in order to select three semi-finalists. Semi-finalists will then participate in long interviews (2½-3 hours). Search Committee members may observe both the short and long interviews. Recordings of all interviews will be available for those unable to watch the live sessions. All interviews will be conducted remotely, using Zoom technology.

## **Description of the Methods Used for Recruitment of Candidates:**

NHSBA advises school boards to advertise on www.edjobsnh.com, SchoolSpring, and any other sources as requested by the SAU 33 School Board. NHSBA will be responsible for posting the advertisements.

Additionally, NHSBA counterpart associations in New England will post the advertisement for NHSBA at no charge. The advertisement will also be sent out to approximately 3,000 subscribers to the newsletter of the Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR) based in Warwick, RI. Search Committee members will be kept informed as to the number of applicants and will be given direct access to SchoolSpring if so desired. In addition, NHSBA will use its informal network within New Hampshire and the region to help in recruiting qualified applicants. The SAU 33 School Board is responsible for the cost of advertising, exclusive of NHSBA's search fee.

# **Search Activities Chart:**

Referring to the chart below, an "X" in each activity designates the activity lead, although for many of them, the Board, TBG and NHSBA may be involved to some degree. All activities will be conducted by teleconference/ Zoom until COVID restrictions are lifted. If the search committee prefers the lead consultant to meet in person, this may be possible if all COVID protocols are followed. In-person meetings will be facilitated by a TBG consultant. It is worth noting that TBG has been conducting searches by teleconference even before COVID due to inherent cost savings, increased meeting participation, and an enhanced evaluation process.





Responsible Party	RSD	TBG	Comments
Major Activities			
1. Finalize search committee make-up	X		Includes a mix of stakeholders
2. Conduct search committee orientation		X	<ul> <li>Includes finalizing the search activity timeline</li> </ul>
			Includes creation of a communication plan
3. Collect Stakeholder Input	X	X	Suggest some type of progress
			communication with the community, as this will
		37	enhance the new superintendent's on-boarding
4. Create superintendent performance criteria,		X	• Includes measurable role, competency, and
which includes creation of a candidate			leadership style proficiencies
evaluation form			<ul> <li>Also includes measurable de-railers/failure factors specific to the district</li> </ul>
			The criteria and evaluation form are used for
			all screening activities
5. Create updated superintendent position	X		This is informed by the performance criteria
description – includes compensation research			TBG will provide guidance here and can
			provide a unique and high utility position
			description template
6. Write job posting notice	X		• This is informed by the performance criteria
			• Includes application requirements – cover
			letter/letter of interest, resume, letters of
			reference, three two-page statements of
			philosophy – education, management, and
			leadership, certification
			• Includes posting of the position on the SAU 33 website
7. Evaluate the existing leadership team against		X	TBG can provide guidance here     This is an evaluation of the team as a whole
the performance criteria		Λ	and not individual members. It is used to
the performance effectia			assist in determining candidate fit with the
			team from a competency asset-deficit
			management perspective.
8. Source candidates		X	• Includes creation of a marketing flyer,
			networking, use of media, and use of web job
			positing sites (usually more than one)
			<ul> <li>May require deep candidate research if the</li> </ul>
			candidate pool is slim given the district's ability
			to attract talent, the uniqueness of the
			candidate qualifications sought, or the status of
			the superintendent hiring cycle. This involves
			contacting passive candidates, i.e., those not
9. Screen applications to get 6-8 quarter-finalists		X	actively seeking a new position
5. Screen applications to get 0-8 quarter-infansts		^	• Applications are screened closely against the performance criteria
10. Conduct short interviews (approx. 60 mins) to get		X	Includes questions derived from the
three or four semi-finalists			application screening and a short version of
			the Guided Storytelling Interview (GSI)
			• The GSI eliminates the need for all candidates
			being asked the same questions (a waste of
			time for everyone) while still being EEOC
			compliant
			• While the GSI is new to education, Dr. Bryan
			has employed this successfully in the business
			and military sectors for decades





			All interviews are conducted on Zoom and recorded
11. Conduct long interview (3+ hours) to get 1-3 finalists		X	• Long GSI – with rigorous evaluation at points during the interview
12. Conduct reference checks		X	The GSI is used with references to get detailed performance data to include evidence of de-railers/failure factors
13. Conduct background checks		X	• Includes verification of degrees, certifications, and criminal record
14. Conduct a community meet and greet of finalists	X		TBG has a protocol for doing this online • TBG provides an abbreviated evaluation guide for this activity
15. Visit candidates' home sites/districts	X		•Depends on COVID restrictions
16. Conduct board interview of finalists	X		TBG provides interview guidelines
17. Search committee makes recommendation to the board	X		• TBG provides final candidate evaluation guidelines to the search committee
18. Board hiring decision – contracting activities	X		
19. Start date $(7/1/21)$ - onboarding activities	X		
20. Transition coaching for the new superintendent and board		X	<ul> <li>Optional, but recommended to ensure the new superintendent gets off on the right foot (this is a short window)</li> <li>Includes clarifying performance expectations</li> </ul>

# **Proposed Timeline:**

Week	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Nov	Nov	Nov	Nov	Nov	Dec	De	Jan	Jan	Jan
Major Activities	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	3	10	17
1. Finalize search committee														
make-up														
2. Conduct search committee orientation														
3. Collect Stakeholder Input														
4. Create superintendent performance criteria														
Create updated superintendent position description														
6. Write job posting notice														
7. Evaluate leadership team														
8. Source candidates														
9. Screen applications														
10. Conduct short interviews (approx. 60 mins)														
11. Conduct long interviews (3+ hours)														
12. Conduct reference checks														
13. Conduct background checks														
14. Conduct community meet and greet														
15. Visit candidates' home sites/ districts														





16. Conduct board interview of finalists							
17. Committee recommendation to the board							
18. Board hiring decision							
19. Start date (7/1/2021)							
20. Transition coaching	•						

# **Stakeholder Input:**

TBG can use a variety of methods to solicit input from various stakeholders. Traditionally, public forums are held to assist the Board or Committee in developing candidate criteria and desired experiences. However, TBG and NHSBA understands public forums may not be possible due to COVID. In recent superintendent searches, TBG has used online surveys to solicit community feedback, disaggregating the answers to identify students, teachers and staff, parents, or residents/citizens at-large. TBG and NHSBA believe that online surveys tend to solicit more useful feedback than traditional public forums. Though these surveys have similar or standard questions, the survey can be amended to fit SAU 33's needs.

# **Candidate Background Information:**

TBG and NHSBA will conduct candidate background reviews and inquiries, including reference checks, review of employment history, professional credentials/certifications and other methods to gain information about candidates. Consumer credit checks can be completed at the Board's request for an additional cost (approximately \$50-\$100). TBG and NHSBA have capabilities to conduct informal "criminal history" checks. However, formal/official criminal history background checks can only be completed by the SAU/district, per state law. NSHBA's position in working with 160 school boards across New Hampshire, coupled with our resources and connections in neighboring states positions NHSBA to be able to provide full and complete candidate background information to the Board.





# **Anticipated Fees:**

- 1. <u>Search Activities #1 #19</u>: \$15,000, plus expenses. Expenses include the cost of internet advertising and mileage to and from Concord, NH to SAU 33 meeting location. Mileage and travel expenses are minimal given that most meetings will be held virtually.
- 2. Search Activity #8 (expanded): If due to a lack of suitable candidates, deep research of passive candidates is required beyond normal sourcing channels, it could cost an additional \$3,000 to \$5,000 for TBG to undertake this activity. However, the Board can decide to continue using traditional sourcing channels until a suitable candidate is found, which would probably extend the timeframe. To date, TBG has not been required to go this route even for the rural district searches it has conducted, but it is a contingency to keep in mind.

# Other Services/Matters with Respect to the Superintendent Search:

#### 1. Contract

• NHSBA/TBG will fulfill all the requirements outlined in the agreed upon and final contract.

#### 2. Continued Services

- NHSBA/TBG agrees to continue the search process within the contracted period of service until a suitable candidate is found.
- Should the end of the contracted period be reached without a qualified candidate in hand willing to sign a contract, NHSBA/TBG will continue the search service until a suitable candidate is found and signed to a contract with charges only being for expenses.
- Should the candidate leave the position, for whatever reason, within a year of having signed a contract, NHSBA/TBG will conduct a second search for expenses only.

#### 3. Use of TBG Proprietary Search Related Materials/Documents

• TBG grants the SAU 33 School District the unrestricted use within the district of selected proprietary TBG materials/documents for a period of three years from the start of the search.

#### 4. <u>Maintenance of Applications and Confidentiality</u>:

- All parties who have access to candidate materials and evaluations are required to sign a confidentiality/non-disclosure agreement as soon as the project starts. The majority of candidates do not want their job search to be public until they make finalist status.
- NHSBA/TBG maintains all applicant materials, including interview results and videos.
- All materials are destroyed at the point the finalist is identified and agrees to a contract.





• Optional: The final evaluation of the candidate selected is preserved and used as feedback to facilitate the transition process re: establishing performance expectations and a PD plan for the new superintendent.

#### 5. Communications

• NHSBA/TBG agrees to respond to district emails and calls within 24 hours (sooner if possible).

# **References:**

- 1. Charles Dumais, Ed.D. is the Executive Director of CES (Cooperative Educational Service in CT. CES provides a variety of services for schools and districts in Southwestern CT. Of the six educational service centers in CT, CES is the only one providing superintendent search services. While CES already conducts a number of searches each year in CT, and at a high level of proficiency, Dr. Dumais recognized that TBG could significantly enhance their search process. CES recently engaged TBG to train their search staff on the unique behavioral science backed methodology TBG employs. This additional expertise will position CES as the premiere superintendent search provider in CT. See reference letter, attached at the end of this proposal.
  - Charles Dumais, Ed.D.
  - <u>dumaisc@cestrumbull.org</u>; 203-530-0232
- 2. Russ Medbery, Newport School Board, SAU 43
  - <u>rmedbery@sau43.org</u>
- 3. Deb Brooks, Epping School Board, SAU 14
  - dbrooks@eppingsd.org
- 4. John Falconer, Colebrook School Board, SAU 7
  - john@linjo.com
- 5. Michelle Heyman, Gilmanton School Board, SAU 79
  - mheyman@sau79.org







COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Charles Dumais, Ed.D.

Executive Director

**Christopher La Belle**Associate Executive Director

**Esther Bobowick**Director of Professional
Development Services

Michael McGrath, Ph.D.

Director of

Special Education

Anna Nelmes-Stoughton Principal Six to Six Magnet School

Linda Page
Director
School Readiness

Mark Ribbens, Ed.D.

Princial

Regional Center

for the Arts/Open

Choice Coordinator

Margaret M. Sullivan
Director of Finance
and Operations

August 2020

As an educational service agency, the C.E.S. mission is to identify and provide quality educational opportunities for educators, students, families, and communities. We provide school districts with high quality, cost-effective educational and support services. To help districts best serve their students and community, we conduct executive searches to identify and secure high quality superintendents to engage in sustainable work with boards of education. Over the past decade, C.E.S. has conducted executive searches in more than forty communities in Connecticut (nearly a quarter of all school districts in the state). There is no other Connecticut educational search firm as committed to the success of schools as we are.

Our executive search services are led by a team of distinguished educational leaders. Our principal search consultants have served as Connecticut superintendents and have performed numerous successful searches in urban, suburban, and rural school districts. Our consultants are supported by an extensive team of professionals who have the resources to facilitate a smooth and effective search process.

When I took over the agency in 2018, we made a commitment to increasing our *agility*, expanding our *impact*, and improving our *relevance*. With respect to executive searches, this translated to moving beyond the traditional interview to a more research-based, data-driven, competency-based method that could effectively identify undeniable leadership traits that are scalable and transferable.

We were guided to The Bryan Group (TBG) and found that their sophisticated, competency-based interview process generates, with predictive validity, information on candidate's needs, wants, desires, competencies/knowledge, skills, talents, and *also* failure factors (so often absent in the typical search process).

Working with the search committee, TBG establishes measurable role proficiency, competency proficiency, and leadership styles that have predictive validity regarding future performance *and* incorporates the unique culture, values, and principles of the school district.

Our partnership with TBG has provided us with the opportunity to build the capacity of our executive search team, better deliver our mission to support school districts, and fundamentally improve the process by which we identify superior candidates.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Dumais Executive Director







NHSCHOO-01

JGOOD

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY) 8/3/2020

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must have ADDITIONAL INSURED provisions or be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

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PRC	DUCER				CONTA NAME:	ਾ Jennifer	L. Good, A						
Davis & Towle Morrill & Everett, Inc. 115 Airport Road Concord, NH 03301						PHONE FAX (A/C, No, Ext): (A/C, No):							
						E-MAIL ADDRESS: jgood@davistowle.com							
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	25 Triangle Park Drive				INSURER C:								
	Suite 101				INSURE								
	Concord, NH 03301				INSURE								
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	ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED?  (Mandatory in NH)	N/A								500,000			
	If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below							E.L. DISEASE - EA EMPLOYER		500,000			
	DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below							E.L. DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT	\$				
DES	CRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHIC	LES (A	ACORE	0 101, Additional Remarks Schedu	ile, may b	e attached if mor	e space is requir	ed)					
CE	RTIFICATE HOLDER				CANO	ELLATION							
Hopkinton School District 204 Maple Street Contoocook, NH 03229						SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS.							
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#### CHUBB.

Chubb Group of Insurance Companies 202B Hall's Mill Road Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

# Commercial Umbrella Liability Coverage Form Declarations

		Declaration						
Policy Symbol: UMB		Previou	s Policy Symbol: UMB					
Policy Number: D95325920	Previous	s Policy Number: New						
COVERAGE IS PROVIDED IN THE COMPANY SHOWN BELOW								
ACE Prop	perty and Casualty 436 Walnut S Philadelphia, P.	Insurance Compai Street	ny					
Named Insured and Address		Producer Nam	e and Address					
THE BRYAN GROUP, LLC 955 Apollo Way Incline Village, NV, 89451		TELAMON INSURANCE & FINANCIAL NETWOR LLC 30 SOUTHWEST PARK						
		WESTWOOD,	MA, 02090-0000					
		PRODUCER CODI	E 0007143-99999					
Policy Period: 03-20-2020 to	03-20-2021		A.M Standard Time at the Address of the Nameded as stated herein					
	Limits of Insu	rance						
\$ 1,000,000 Each Occurrence								
\$ 1,000,000 General Aggregate								
\$1,000,000 Products Completed-Operations	s Aggregate	\$0 Self-Insured	Retention					
	Policy Period I	remium						
	Terrorism Premi		AnnualPremium					
\$ 0.00 State Surcharge								
\$ 525.00 Premium, including all Surcharges	and Assessment	S						
	Schedule of Un Insuran	derlying						
Underlying Policy Type: Businessowne Company	of Insurance	Limit Amount						
ACE Property And Casualty Insurance Compa	any Gener	ral Aggregate \$2,000,000						
Policy Period 03-20-2020 to 03-20-2021		ts-Completed ons Aggregate	\$2,000,000					
☐ Including Hired and Non Owned Only Au Liability (within GL)	Each to	n Occurrence \$1,000,000						

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#### CHUBB°

#### Commercial Umbrella Liability Coverage Form

Declarations

Employee Benefits Liability

Underlying Policy Type: Employers Liability Limits of Insurance Limit Amount

Company Bodily Injury by Accident

Chubb- Federal Insurance Company Each Accident \$500,000

Policy Number 71787038 Bodily Injury By Disease

Each Policy \$500,000

Policy Period 03-20-2020 to 03-20-2020 Each Employee \$500,000

In any jurisdiction, state, or province where the amount of Employers Liability Insurance provided by the Underlying Insurer(s) is by law "Unlimited", the underlying Employers Liability limit(s) shown in the above schedule do not apply and no coverage shall be provided for Employers Liability under this policy.

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# William R. Bryan, Ph.D., CEO

The Bryan Group, LLC 955 Apollo Way, Incline Village, NV 89451 Cell: 401-965-8345

Bill is the founder and CEO of The Bryan Group, LLC, which is a consulting firm that provides high-level capacity building services to organizations in the education and business sectors. Services include executive search, strategic planning, leader coaching, and organization development to include talent and performance management best practices. Bill is also the cofounder and VP for Leadership and Organization Development at the Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR). This is an education consulting firm that focuses on improving student performance. For the past 13 years he has provided management, leadership, and organization development services to schools and school districts across the country, to include those in 14 different states. Bill is currently reducing his role in CSSR to that of advisor, as he ramps up The Bryan Group nationally.

After graduating from Dartmouth College, Bill entered the Army, where he achieved the rank of Captain and was the commanding officer of companies in South Korea and the US. Following his Army service, Bill obtained a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from The George Washington University with a specialty in child, adolescent, and family psychotherapy. He started a group psychology practice and held a variety of positions to include university teaching. Based on his clinical and academic experience, he was hired to create and direct the student counseling services at Bryant University. His interest in communication skills training and work with businesses led to a position as project director with McBer and Company (now Hay/McBer), a Boston consulting firm specializing in motivation and competency research that was led by Dr. David McClelland, the head of the Harvard Social Relations and Psychology Departments. In this role, he conducted applied competency and motivation research aimed at improving the performance of Fortune 500 companies and military organizations.

Bill founded Bryan Associates, Inc. (BAI) and ran this consulting firm for 23 years. BAI provided management, leadership, and organization development services to a wide variety of companies in the private, non-profit, and government sectors. A sample of the clients served includes: Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Citicorp, CKE Restaurants, Entergy Corporation, Exxon, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Johnson & Johnson, Kidder Peabody, Major League Baseball, Mobil, New York Life, the New York Stock Exchange, Southwestern Bell, the U.S. Navy, the YMCA of the USA, and the University of Rhode Island.

To sum up Bill's capabilities, he is a highly skilled consultant, manager, leader, and entrepreneur with demonstrated competence and success in multiple sectors in the following areas:

- Leadership
- Executive coaching
- Executive search and selection
- Competency-based hiring practices
- Change leadership implementation of major organization initiatives
- Project management
- Talent management applied competency and talent research and applications, e.g., training, professional development, performance appraisal, succession planning, and creating staffing plans





- Performance management
- Development and implementation of performance standards at all levels
- Strategic planning
- Design, development, and delivery of interventions to create high-performing organizations
- Design and development of organizational strategies, processes, and structure
- Alignment of operational and human resource capabilities with organization objectives creation of competency-based HR functions
- Team building, creating high-performing teams, and meeting facilitation
- Customer/stakeholder needs and satisfaction research

Bill is an experienced speaker at both the local and national level. He is a member of the Academy of Management, the American Psychological Association, and the Society for the Study of Peace, Conflict, and Violence. His involvement in academia includes positions at Providence College (psychology and counseling), Bryant University (counseling), University of Rhode Island (labor relations, organization behavior – undergraduate and MBA, and advisor to the executive MBA program), American University (NTL/MA program in HR development), and New England College (Ed.D. leadership program instructor and dissertation advisor).

Bill has authored many white papers, articles, and professional development programs. He was the lead contributor for *Breaking Ranks® II* and the *Breaking Ranks® in the Middle* Implementation Guide titled: *Breaking Ranks®: A Field Guide for Leading Change.* He led and authored a study of the characteristics of top-performing quality leaders in 13 top tier organizations, to include: Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Harvard, Hewlett-Packard, Marriott Corporation, NYNEX, and Texas Instruments. He has three book projects in the works – one on leadership, one on enhanced hiring practices, and one on developing student agency. He is actively engaged in a study, the results of which will be published, that identifies how school-age children cope with adversity and develop the social-emotional intelligence competencies required for a successful life.